



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

MAY 4.

ARTHUR ERWIN BROWN, Sc.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Sixty-five persons present.

The Publication Committee reported the reception of a paper entitled "The Vegetation of the Salt Marshes and of the Salt and Fresh-water Ponds of Northern Coastal New Jersey," by John W. Harshberger, Ph.D. (April 24).

The deaths of Charles Hartshorne, October 30, 1908, and of Dr. Joseph Thomas, January 28, 1909, members, were announced.

MR. STEWARDSON BROWN made a communication on a botanical trip to the headwaters of the Saskatchewan and Athabasca Rivers, British Columbia. (No abstract.)

MAY 18.

ARTHUR ERWIN BROWN, Sc.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Forty-one persons present.

The presentation of a paper entitled "The Occurrence of *Bufo columbiensis* East of the Rocky Mountains," by Robert T. Young (May 5), was reported by the Publication Committee.

The death of Dr. C. N. Peirce, a member of the Council, May 15, was announced.

PROF. GILBERT VAN INGEN made a communication on the so-called Clinton Iron Ore of Bloomsburg, Penna. (No abstract.)

MR. EDGAR T. WHERRY spoke of the silicified woods of the New Red. (No abstracts.)

Scolithus linearis Burrows with Orifice Complete.—MR. BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN remarked that *Scolithus linearis*, so abundant at many places in the Pennsylvania Cambrian quartzite, was long supposed to be a fucoid plant; and even so late as thirty years ago was in a well-known valuable text-book called a plant, though at least fifteen years

earlier it had been correctly given as a worm-burrow in Dana's *Manual*, where it was said to be common in the Potsdam sandstone. Walcott later found it to be Cambrian; and said, in 1890, he had never seen it in the classical Potsdam.

Specimens were met with during a field excursion of the Mineralogical and Geological Section on October 17, 1908, which fully demonstrated with remarkable clearness that the *Scolithus linearis* is a worm-burrow in the sand of a sea-beach. In one of Mr. Bean's Cambrian quartzite quarries, called by him the Davis quarry, at the eastern end of the North Valley Hill and at three-quarters of a mile southwest of Valley Forge, many burrows of *Scolithus linearis* were found; and on one small slab, with burrows, numerous little circular ridges were instantly recognized by Mr. F. J. Keeley as the crater-shaped orifices of *Scolithus* holes precisely like those of sand-burrowing worms to be seen on our present sea-beaches at Atlantic City and elsewhere (Plate X).

The highly interesting and useful, perhaps hitherto unique slab, $5\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, was presented to the Academy by the finder, Mr. Alan G. Smith. It is well, however, to bear in mind, that further quarrying may, of course, disclose other equally perfect specimens that originated on the same ancient sea-beach.

A somewhat similar burrow with a rather complete orifice was found by the late Ellis Clark "in the Siluro-Cambrian limestone of Lehigh County, about a quarter of a mile north of Helfrich's Spring;" and is described by Prof. Frederick Prime in Report D2, p. 79, of the State Geological Survey, 1878. The fossil was submitted to Dr. Otto Torell, Director of the Geological Survey of Sweden, and at once recognized by him as belonging to his genus *Monocraterion*, and given the specific name of *lesleyi*. The genus is closely allied to *Scolithus*, but the straight tube "gradually expands at the top into a funnel-shaped cavity, corresponding to a like protuberance in the animal." The smaller part of the tube is larger than our *Scolithus*; and in one specimen is three-eighths of an inch in diameter, with the funnel expanding, within a length of half an inch, to an inch or more in diameter.

The following were ordered to be published:



LYMAN. SCOLITHUS LINEARIS.